



## *City of Miami Springs, Florida*

The Miami Springs City Council held a **REGULAR MEETING** in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Tuesday, May 26, 2009, at 7:00 p.m.

### **1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

The following were present:

Mayor Billy Bain  
Vice Mayor Bob Best  
Councilwoman Jennifer Ator  
Councilman Daniel Espino  
Councilman George V. Lob

Also Present:

City Manager James R. Borgmann  
Assistant City Manager Ronald K. Gorland  
City Attorney Jan K. Seiden  
Chief of Police Peter G. Baan  
Public Works Director Robert T. Williams  
City Planner Richard E. Ventura  
City Clerk Magalí Valls

### **2. Invocation:** Mayor Bain offered the invocation.

**Salute to the Flag:** The audience participated.

### **3. Awards & Presentations:**

#### **3A) Presentation of Certificates to Miami Springs Senior High Students for their Efforts in the Springs River Festival – Anchor/Ecohawks Recognition**

Connie Brandenburg expressed her appreciation for all of the work and effort put forth by the Springs River Festival staffers and volunteers. She noted that many of the students were not able to attend the meeting due to a school scheduling conflict, but read the names of the students being recognized.

Mayor Bain presented Certificates of Recognition to those students in attendance to the applause of the audience, and congratulated them for their participation.

#### **4. Open Forum:**

##### **Threshold Inspector**

Gary Johnson of 547 Deer Run inquired why the City was hiring a new Threshold Inspector for the new Community Center when it already has a Building Inspector.

##### **Code Section 150-013 (C) (2)**

Gary Johnson also asked that someone clarify Code Section (C) (2) as he has a difference of opinion with Staff regarding fencing.

##### **Summertime on the Circle**

Lily Saborit of 117 Palmetto Drive, President of the Miami Springs Airport Area Chamber of Commerce informed Council that the Chamber is hosting an event on Friday, May 29, 2009 which is a continuation of the promotion and re-branding of the Miami Springs Airport Area Chamber. In an effort to encourage community teamwork, she has spent the past five months producing events with different organizations within the City. The goal in May is to host an event to bring the community together through arts, education and community spirit, while promoting local residents and businesses. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday for the “Bistro Corner” off the Circle. The event will be open to the public and feature the music program of the Miami Springs Senior High School. She invited everyone to attend, enjoy the festivities and participate in the fund raising efforts of “Summertime on the Circle” from 7:00 – 10:00 p.m. on Friday night.

##### **Skateboard Park**

Robert Shultz of 100 Sunset Way congratulated the new Council members and expressed his desire that they continue to address the issue of a skateboard park. He pointed out how popular skateboarding is, and said that he felt the kids need a dedicated area to keep them off the streets and the sidewalks and running afoul of law enforcement.

##### **Skateboard Park**

Denise Lemessy 5731 N. W. 37<sup>th</sup> Street, Virginia Gardens also expressed her support for a skateboard park.

## **Termination of Finance Director**

Leacroft E. Robinson said that he felt it was important to approach the Council with his concerns regarding his release from the position of Finance Director. He distributed and read a three-page letter stating that he was shocked at being terminated without cause. A copy is attached for the record.

### **Leacroft E. Robinson**

Pilar Sáenz of 549 Deer Run stated that she is a resident of Miami Springs and a 20 year employee of the City of Miami, which is where she met Mr. Lee Robinson. She wanted to express her disappointment at the City's action to terminate Mr. Robinson, as a resident, friend and colleague. She strongly recommended that the issue be further discussed as suggested by Mr. Robinson. She felt the residents of the City had a right to be informed of the initiatives Mr. Robinson had implemented and the actions that have taken place. She was very pleased to hear that Mr. Robinson had been hired and felt he was a welcome addition to the City. She found it very difficult to be speaking about this subject; Mr. Robinson is a professional and his departure is a loss for the City.

### **Leacroft E. Robinson**

Guy Forchion of 11052 N. E. 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Miami, expressed his support of Mr. Robinson as a very capable and thorough individual, as noted in the list of accomplishments that were presented to the Council. He first worked with Mr. Robinson at the Virginia Beach Park Trust and hired him in 2003 as the Finance Director. As Director of Operations for the Virginia Beach Park Trust he wanted to point out that Mr. Robinson was an extraordinarily gifted professional, and he was very surprised at the actions of the City. He understood that Florida was an 'at will' state but did not expect a government to act in such a manner. He asked Council to reconsider the action and address the concerns that Mr. Robinson raised.

Mr. Forchion noted that he was very excited for Mr. Robinson when he became the Finance Director of Miami Springs, even though it was a loss to the Trust; they still operate under many of the policies and controls that Mr. Robinson instituted. He reiterated how shocked and disappointed he was to hear what had transpired in the City.

Mayor Bain suggested that Mr. Robinson's letter be reviewed and the issues that were asked to be addressed added as a future agenda item.

## **5. Approval of Council Minutes:**

### **5A) 05/11/2009 – Regular Meeting**

Minutes of the May 11, 2009 Regular Meeting were approved as written.

**Councilman Best moved to approve. Councilwoman Ator seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously on roll call vote.**

**6. Reports from Boards & Commissions:**

**6A) 04/28/2009 – Ecology Board – Minutes**

Minutes of the April 28, 2009 Ecology Board meeting were received for information without comment.

**6B) 05/06/2009 – Architectural Review Board – Minutes**

Minutes of the May 6, 2009 Architectural Review Board meeting were received for information without comment.

**6C) 05/12/2009 – Recreation Commission – Cancellation Notice**

Cancellation Notice of the May 12, 2009 Recreation Commission meeting was received for information without comment.

**6D) 05/14/2009 – Board of Parks and Parkways – Minutes**

Minutes of the May 14, 2009 Board of Parks and Parkways meeting were received for information without comment.

**6E) 05/20/2009 – Zoning and Planning Board – Minutes**

Minutes of the May 20, 2009 Zoning and Planning Board meeting were received for information without comment.

**6F) 05/28/2009 – Code Review Board – Cancellation Notice**

Cancellation Notice of the May 28, 2009 Code Review Board meeting was received for information without comment.

**6G) 06/16/2009 – Education Advisory Board – Cancellation Notice**

Cancellation Notice of the June 16, 2009 Education Advisory Board meeting was received for information without comment.

**7. Public Hearings:**

Council sat as the Board of Appeals at 7:36 p.m.

The Mayor reconvened the City Council meeting at 7:41 p.m.

**8. Consent Agenda:**

None.

**9. Old Business:**

**9A) Appointments to Advisory Boards by the Mayor and Council Members**

Councilman Espino (Group II) **confirmed the appointment** of Terry Hallford to the Ecology Board for an unexpired term ending on April 30, 2011.

Mayor Bain **appointed** Charlene Anderson to the Disability Advisory Board for a partial term ending on December 31, 2010.

Vice Mayor Best (Group I) **re-appointed** Elizabeth Manning to the Education Advisory Board for a full 2-year term ending on May 31, 2011.

Councilman Lob (Group III) **re-appointed** Eduardo Molliner to the Education Advisory Board for a full 2-year term ending on May 31, 2011.

Councilman Espino (Group II) **confirmed the appointment** of Jorge Filgueira to the Board of Parks and Parkways for a full 3-year term ending on April 30, 2012.

Councilman Espino (Group II) **confirmed the appointment** of Arthur Freyre to the Code Review Board for an unexpired term ending on April 30, 2011.

Councilwoman Ator (Group IV) **appointed** Beth Tilman to the Recreation Commission for a partial term ending on April 30, 2010.

## **10. New Business:**

### **10A) Request to Enter Into a Contract with Disaster Operations and Training, Inc. for Various Services Required by the City and FEMA**

City Manager Borgmann advised Council that the City is at the point where the aggregate costs for the individual tasks performed by this company will be in excess of \$10,000 per year. The City has been proactive and used the services of Disaster Operations and Training, Inc. to ensure that it is in compliance with FEMA requirements prior to a disaster to qualify for relief funds. The company has been working with the City for several years and has been instrumental in providing backup documentation to support City claims.

In response to the Mayor's question, City Manager Borgmann replied that the service is on an "as-needed" basis and the firm is currently working on a procedures manual for general operating procedures.

Mayor Bain asked how many issues the company worked on for the City last year, and what the expenditures were for the current year.

City Manager Borgmann replied that he did not have the information from last year in front of him; the expenditure to date was \$7,500. Once they realized that the additional task required to be performed would exceed the limit, they brought it to Council's attention.

City Manager Borgmann explained that FEMA often reviews its policies and procedures. The City has to stay in compliance, whether it means changing its plans, revising applications, etc. As an example, three years ago FEMA added National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliancy to its policies; the newest council members will have to be certified on some of those items and the City will have to provide documentation that those requirements have been met. Failure to comply may delay payment on claims.

City Manager Borgmann further explained that FEMA is currently reviewing and finalizing the City's claims for Hurricane Wilma, which shows how far behind that agency is in authorizing payments. He also pointed out that FEMA changed the procedures for estimating debris tonnage between hurricanes Katrina and Wilma.

Discussion ensued regarding some of the charges shown in the contract.

Gabrielle Begnini, President of Disaster Operations and Training, Inc. explained that the company has implemented a 'disaster reimbursement recovery program' in response to their experience in working with FEMA. This ensures that municipalities have the proper documentation as to the status and condition of assets, inventories and records. Public Works, Police Departments, EMS and Fire Departments are required to keep updated records on vehicles, tag serial numbers, engines and the personnel who operate them. Lack of, or improper documentation can result in FEMA reimbursement payment delays or denials. Maintenance on bridges, roads and sidewalks must also be documented. Her company updates all assets and inventory on a yearly basis and cross references them to insurance records, to ensure the City can claim any dollars it is entitled to.

Ms. Begnini continued to explain that they have compiled a debris management plan for the City which is updated every year, and covers a multitude of items. They are currently coordinating emergency operation procedures with the Chief of Police for training exercises. The intent is to have an effective plan ready before a storm or disaster occurs.

Vice Mayor Best confirmed that the company makes sure that all the proper documentation is in place prior to an emergency to facilitate the successful filing of claims.

In response to Vice Mayor Best's question, Ms. Begnini replied that she has been 100% successful on any FEMA negotiations, and they have won all of their appeals.

City Attorney Seiden pointed out that the company has also been working on producing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for storm debris removal services. It is in the City's best interest to have collectors, haulers and monitors in place before a storm; in the past they have had to piggy-back" on other cities' contracts, which puts them at the bottom of the list.

City Attorney Seiden explained that in dealing with a contractor that does multiple functions, theoretically each task is limited to the under \$10,000 limit. The Manager continues to limit each work order to under \$10,000 so there are no questions later.

In response to Vice Mayor Best's question, City Manager Borgmann replied that he was expecting approximately \$500,000 in reimbursement from hurricane Wilma. The total reimbursement from Katrina was close to \$900,000 which included an extra 2.5% that the City would have been responsible for, due to a change in rules.

To answer Mayor Bain's questions, City Manager Borgmann said that the contract could run through the end of the fiscal year; the second part would be dependent on additional funding as they work on the FY2009-2010 budget. The funding usually comes out of the City's hurricane fund.

City Attorney Seiden said that he thought a year-long contract would be preferable to one that ends at the fiscal year; he suggested that the time frame be June 1, 2009 to June 1, 2010.

Mayor Bain asked for clarification of the tasks listed in the breakdown sheet, when the projects were started and how much has been paid to date, etc.

Ms. Begnini said that the debris management plan was completed last October; the comprehensive emergency plans were updated last year and they are currently implementing the emergency operations procedures for the functional Staff and the vulnerability studies.

City Manager Borgmann reiterated that the City has been working with this company for several years, right after Katrina and Wilma. He explained that the City had a generalized City operations manual, but DOT has reviewed that manual, which helped the City in its dealing with FEMA. He further explained that the tasks listed on the proposal sheet are estimates; each grouping comes in under the \$10,000 limit, but he wanted Council to be aware of the aggregate costs up front.

In response to Mayor Bain's questions, Ms. Begnini replied that all of the tasks listed do not have to be completed within a year. The proposal is her best estimate of the tasks not to exceed a specific amount. The disaster recovery program identifies City assets, states their conditions, takes photographs and logs the information into a database; FEMA requires all this information to file a claim. She said that the goal is to complete the tasks within the next six to eight weeks. They have created a data base for the City that can be updated yearly at less expense.

City Manager Borgmann summarized that each group of tasks individually does not exceed \$10,000 but the total amount of the contract is \$16,200. Several of the tasks are projected to be completed within the next two months. If the City should need additional assistance over the contract amount, Council will be advised first, keeping in mind that most of those costs will be reimbursed by FEMA in the case of an emergency.

Councilwoman Ator clarified that Council would be approving work orders for up to \$10,000, even though the one proposal states \$8,700.

To answer Mayor Bain's question, City Attorney Seiden replied that this was technically a waiver of competitive bid, but the company may qualify as a sole source.

Ms. Begnini advised that the company does courtesy work with some of the municipalities by meeting with their Public Works and Police Departments to determine in which areas they might need record-keeping help. For Miami Springs, they are implementing a training exercise aimed at cross-training the Police Department with Public Works and the Administration.

City Manager Borgmann noted that there are other companies that provide similar services; the proposal he received from PBS&J several years ago was significantly higher.

Mayor Bain would like the motion to reflect that the contract would be limited to three purchase orders, and be re-evaluated after that to review how close the company was keeping to its estimates.

City Attorney Seiden suggested that the motion could stipulate that management bring every work order to Council for review.



City Manager Borgmann reiterated that his intention was to keep Council aware of the costs.

City Attorney Seiden stated that the contract is based on \$10,000 per work order, and if approved, it would be based on a waiver of competitive bidding. He suggested that Council could approve the contract based upon the work orders and tasks provided now, and that any future tasks or work orders must come back to Council for prior approval; this also allows the Council to exercise the 30-day release option.

**Councilman Lob moved to approve. Councilman Espino seconded the motion.**

For discussion, Vice Mayor Best clarified that the funds would come from the Hurricane Fund.

**The motion was carried unanimously on roll call vote.**

**10B) Site Plan Review – Case # 01-ZP-09 – City of Miami Springs – 1401 Westward Drive – Zoning: P-1, Public Property District – Lot size: 156,638 sq. ft. total. The Applicant, the City of Miami Springs, is Requesting Site Plan Approval for a Proposed Community Center and Gymnasium to Replace the Existing Facility**

City Planner Ventura noted that this site plan differed from the original in that the height of the structure has been reduced to 43-1/2 feet. He summarized the events leading up to the site plan approval: The City requested variances for height in excess of 40 feet and a reduction of 74 parking spaces at the January 5, 2009 Board of Adjustment meeting. The parking variance request was granted and the height variance was denied at that meeting. The findings were appealed; at the Board of Appeals meeting held on January 28, 2009, the parking variance request was upheld and the request for the height variance was overturned with the condition that the height be limited to 43-1/2 feet.

City Planner Ventura explained that the new community center at 1401 Westward Drive will replace the existing structure constructed in 1955. The new facility will encompass 33,000 square feet with a maximum height of 43-1/2 feet; 209 parking spaces will be provided instead of the current 195.

City Planner Ventura further explained that the case packets contain two reviews from PBS&J; the review of May 14, 2009 states that all issues that needed to be addressed based on the April 27, 2009 review have been corrected with the exception that the width of Apache Street had not been included on the site survey. The Public Works Department will be responsible for the irrigation and landscaping around the facility. PBS&J also suggested that the photometric sheet regarding lighting in public right-of-ways be reviewed by Public Works for approval, which was also done. Staff recommends approval of the site plan with the condition that the site survey is updated for the building permit application.

City Attorney Seiden explained the site plan approval process for the new council members; after the plans have been approved, the Applicant provides a certain amount of money to the City which is put into a trust account. The plans are reviewed independently by PBS&J and they are paid from that trust fund; any questions that need to be addressed are brought to the attention of the Applicant to be resolved. In this case the concerns regarding the irrigation, landscaping and lighting are going to be handled by the Public Works department. The site survey will be amended before the building permit application is submitted. He further explained that the engineers have given their approval; the Council review at this point is ministerial.

**Councilman Lob moved to approve. Vice Mayor Best seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously on roll call vote.**

**10C) Resolution – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs, Florida Authorizing Signatories for all City Bank, Savings and Trust Accounts; Authorizing Acceptance of Two Facsimile Signatures of City Manager James R. Borgmann and Finance Director William Alonso; Authorizing the Combined Manual Signatures of Two of the Following: City Manager James R. Borgmann, Assistant City Manager Ronald K. Gorland, Finance Director William Alonso, or Chief of Police Peter G. Baan; Rescinding all Resolutions in Conflict; Effective Date**

City Attorney Seiden read the resolution by title.

**Vice Mayor Best moved to adopt the resolution. Councilwoman Ator seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously on roll call vote (Resolution No. 2009-3446).**

**10D) Resolution – A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Miami Springs Amending the Appendix of Civil Infraction Code Sections and Civil Penalties for Violations Appended to, and Made a Part of, Code of Ordinance Section 101-01, Supplemental Code Enforcement Citation System; Directions to Codifiers; Effective Date**

City Attorney Seiden read the resolution by title.

Attorney Seiden explained that ordinance No. 930-2006 authorized the use of and provided certain restrictions for the use of portable storage units; at that same time provisions were also made for violations and penalties. In order to enforce any written Code Compliance Department citations, this section of the ordinance and the penalties it refers to must be included within the Appendix, which lists all the sections that are subject to being written as a ticket. He further explained that it had been discovered that this section had been omitted from the Appendix and this resolution will correct the situation.

City Attorney Seiden noted that the penalties would be \$50 per day for the first violation and \$100 per day for the second violation for repeat offenders with portable storage units.

Mayor Bain was of the opinion that the penalties were too high.

City Attorney Seiden noted that the penalties would apply only after a number of extensions; the Department is very cooperative with people who need extra time.

City Manager Borgmann said that the City has worked with some residents for months when they were not able to settle with the insurance company to get their roof fixed, for example. There are some residents that have taken advantage of the situation though.

Councilman Lob pointed out that if the company that supplied the portable on demand storage (POD) cannot move it in a timely manner for some reason, the resident is liable.

City Manager Borgmann said that if the company wrote a letter to the City to that effect, that letter would be acceptable.

Discussion ensued regarding the time limits that are placed on the PODS.

City Manager Borgmann stated that all of the details concerning the PODS are contained on the permit application; the City will still work with those residents that require extra time.

To answer Vice Mayor Best's question, the City Attorney said that no citations have been issued. He explained that Code Compliance is not a revenue generating endeavor for the City; its purpose is to encourage residents to comply with the Code. If there are no teeth in the regulations there is no point in having them to begin with.

Assistant City Manager Gorland pointed out that less than three percent of Code Compliance contacts result in actual fines; almost all of the residents comply right away if they are notified of an issue.

City Attorney Seiden stated that the number of code enforcement cases has been greatly reduced over the past several years. People are voluntarily complying; the department has reasonable limits and advises the residents of how and when the penalties will be applied. He reiterated that the purpose of the resolution is to add the penalties to the appendix.

**Councilman Lob moved the item. Vice Mayor Best seconded the motion, which carried 4-1 on roll call vote with Mayor Bain dissenting. (Resolution No. 2009-3447).**

**10E) Recommendation that Council Approve an Expenditure of \$24,279.00 to Purchase a 2010 Ford Crown Victoria from Duval Ford, Inc., Utilizing Florida Sheriffs Association Bid Award # 08-16-0908, as Provided in Section 31.11 (E) (5) of the City Code to Replace Damaged Police Vehicle # 631**

Police Chief Baan explained that this was one of the newer patrol cars in the fleet, and needs to be replaced to avoid building up mileage on the other vehicles. Each vehicle accumulates about 40,000 miles a year and they run 24 hours a day. There are funds in the budget to replace it; they received about \$15,000 from the insurance claim and another \$2,700 refund from the maintenance contract and extended warranty. There is also some money left in the vehicle budget and civilian salary budget.

Chief Baan continued to say that the dog responsible for the accident had been identified and that Human Resources was going to contact the Florida League of Cities regarding the procedures to file a claim if possible.

**Councilman Espino moved to approve. Councilman Lob seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously on roll call vote.**

**10F) Recommendation to Extend the Auditing Contract for One Additional Year with Alberni, Caballero & Castellanos**

City Manager Borgmann stated that this will be the final option year for the auditors. The City paid \$39,000 for the first year and \$42,000 for the second; the third and final year will be \$44,500. The last year is still less than any other bid that the City received two years ago, which is why he is recommending that Council exercise the option of the extra year.

**Councilwoman Ator moved to approve. Councilman Best seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously on roll call vote.**

**11. Other Business:**

**11A) Rescheduling of the June 4, 2009 Workshop Meeting to Tuesday, June 2, 2009**

Mayor Bain requested a 7:30 start time due to several graduation scheduling conflicts. The Council members agreed, while noting that Councilwoman Ator would be late.

City Manager Borgmann reported that the City is very close to having a signed contract for CMI and the Curtiss mansion restoration. Council approved the contractor, but the contract has to be signed, ratified, reviewed and authorized by Council. He would like to schedule a special meeting for that purpose on the same evening.

Discussion ensued and it was **agreed** that the Special meeting be held before the Workshop meeting on Tuesday, June 2, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.

City Attorney Seiden noted that he had reviewed the final draft of the contract; CMI approved it, and it now goes to Carivon for review.

## **12. Reports & Recommendations:**

### **12A) City Attorney**

City Attorney Seiden had no items to report.

### **12B) City Manager**

#### **Annexation**

City Manager Borgmann advised that he had received notification that the County Commission will be hearing the City's request for annexation at their June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting at 9:30 a.m. A copy of the letter was provided for the Council members. Following the consideration of the application the Commission will forward it to the Planning Advisory Board for review and recommendation and a subsequent public hearing before the Board of County Commissioners. The City still needs the four-city resolution pertaining to the areas proposed to be annexed.

City Attorney Seiden offered to contact Medley Town Attorney Mel Wolfe regarding the resolution; it should have been delivered to the City last week. He explained that the meeting before the Commission members is ministerial in nature, though the Mayor may attend the meeting.

Mayor Bain advised that he planned to attend the meeting in the event he was asked for input. He also wanted to determine where the City's application was in relation to the applications of Virginia Gardens. He did not know if all four municipalities had to submit at the same time or if the joint resolution agreement would be enough to allow each municipality to proceed individually. He hoped to get information to report back to the Council members.

#### **Art in Public Places**

City Manager Borgmann reported that the "Art in Public Places" program in relation to the Community Center would cost approximately \$95,000. He explained that this type of program is required in almost every type of public building constructed in Miami-Dade County and the City will have to participate.

In reply to Mayor Bain's question, City Manager Borgmann said that the program could encompass murals, mosaics, stained glass windows, etc. The City has met with the County and been told what it needs to do to start the process. The County will also provide a list of artists that are pre-qualified.

Vice Mayor Best asked if there were any artists from Miami Springs on the list.

City Manager Borgmann said he was going to ask that question in future talks. He explained that the funds can be spent on multiple items, but the total has to equal 1.5% of the total project.

City Attorney Seiden advised that other communities have commissioned projects, and the City can do the same. There are guidelines that have to be followed, but the Council would have input on what was approved.

## **FEMA**

City Manager Borgmann also reported that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) officials are auditing the City's reports from Hurricane Wilma, and he hoped to have a favorable resolution shortly.

## **Transit Funds**

City Manager Borgmann said that the City has submitted the documents for the transit funds of \$130,000 from the federal stimulus package. The County will be administering the funds and the City may have to sign an Interlocal Agreement. He explained that many of the smaller cities receiving the funds are using it to upgrade their shuttle services with protective shelters and signage.

## **Multi-Family Recycling**

City Manager Borgmann noted that the City is still trying to resolve the multi-family recycling issue. He is waiting for a return call from Luis Vargas, the commercial recycling manager for the County. Typically, the private haulers usually offer a recycling program along with the normal waste disposal. He explained that the City will have to issue credits to approximately 137 accounts that have not been getting service.

## **Staff at City Hall**

City Manager Borgmann reported that several Staff members have been out due to illness and they are all in his prayers.

## **Community Center**

City Manager Borgmann said that the Administration had met with Ralph Wakefield to address his concerns regarding the location of a wall, an additional restroom and the size of the elevator at the Community Center. If the elevator cannot be increased in size to accommodate set material, they might look into pricing a service elevator, but no decision will be made without Council approval.

## **Skateboard Park**

City Manager Borgmann stated that the Administration is still looking at sites for a skateboard park and invited any interested skaters to participate in the search and in the design process.

## **Stafford Park Lunch Room**

City Manager Borgmann announced that the City is entering into an agreement with the School Board to allow them to use the old bathroom and office at Stafford Park as a break/lunch room. The building is in poor shape but the School Board has agreed to spruce it up for their use during working hours. The City will still have access after hours.

## **Crime Watch/CPO**

City Manager Borgmann reported that the Community Policing Office (CPO) is still looking for block captains to participate in the volunteer Crime Watch program. He invited anyone interested to contact the CPO for details.

## **Pool Slide**

City Manager Borgmann noted that earlier estimates to repair the pool slide were as high as \$20,000, with \$32,000 for replacement. They were able to have it repaired for \$9,900; the contract was signed and it should be ready for the summer programs.

## **12C) City Council**

### **Get Well Wishes**

Councilman Lob stated that he hoped all the Staff members would recover soon.

### **Skateboarding**

Councilman Lob read a poem seen on the floor at the high school:

*“The bumps, bruises and broken bones; the blood that pours from open wounds; the stitches needed to mend the cuts; all of this become too much. The death defying leaps of faith; the frightening heights at which you fall; you still decide to risk your life just because it all feels right. Some people do it day and night; just because it’s a way of life; to have the thrill without a pill; skating is my way of life.”*

Councilman Lob wanted to bring this to the public’s attention to point out the need for a skateboard park.

### **Architectural Review Board**

Councilman Espino congratulated the Architectural Review Board for their pro-active attitude and their desire to get involved.

### **Blessed Trinity Golf Tournament**

Councilman Espino reminded all that Blessed Trinity was holding their golf tournament on Saturday, May 30, 2009. Anyone interested in participating was invited to call the Rectory for more information.

### **Attorney's Luncheon**

Councilman Espino reported that he heard an interesting and informative presentation regarding "qualified immunity" at an attorney's luncheon he attended on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Commercial Revitalization**

Councilman Espino distributed copies of a memo he had prepared as a result of the forum held on the evening of May 13, 2009. The forum was well attended with over 50 people present; the memo summarizes the items discussed. He was gratified to see the support and hear the ideas from the community, and hoped that the upcoming workshop meeting will result in action on many of the suggestions that were made.

Councilman Lob was very pleased with the participation at the forum. It allowed the exchange of ideas and information in an informal setting, and he suggested that more should be scheduled. He would encourage Council members to attend if they could.

### **Renaming of 36<sup>th</sup> Street**

Councilman Espino noted that during the forum Bob Calvert brought up the point that N. W. 36<sup>th</sup> Street is known as "Doral Boulevard" and the consensus was that it should be changed. Virginia Gardens Mayor Deno was amenable. An informal proposal is to designate the section from the Palmetto Expressway to LeJeune Road "Miami Springs/Virginia Gardens Way or Boulevard." He received instructions from Commissioner Sosa's staff on how to pursue the matter and would like to continue with Council's approval.

The consensus was that Councilman Espino could continue with the project.



## **City's Website**

Councilman Espino reported that a resident responded to Council's discussion of updating the City website by preparing a proposal himself based on the comments of that meeting. The cost would be substantially less than \$10,000 to get most of the options discussed. He promised to e-mail copies of the proposal to the Council and Administration for review and further discussion.

## **Annexation**

Vice Mayor Best was happy to see the annexation process moving forward.

## **Appointment to the Justice Department**

Vice Mayor Best noted that a local resident and personal friend, Lynn Obermann was recently accepted for a job in the Justice Department in Washington, D. C. As a result he was interviewed by the F. B. I. for security purposes; he thought the process was very interesting.

## **Memorial Day Ceremony**

Vice Mayor Best expressed his appreciation to the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR); the event was very well attended. He apologized to Tony Bray and any other Korean War veterans for not mentioning that particular war.

## **Baseball Umpires**

Mayor Bain noted that he and Vice Mayor Best were umpiring a baseball game together on Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, the night of the Chamber of Commerce forum and he had a great time.

## **Prayer Day Proclamation**

Mayor Bain reported that several children from the Miami Springs Adventist School brought a hand-made thank you card to City Hall in response to the Prayer Day Proclamation. He expressed his appreciation, but wanted to give credit to the City Clerk for preparing the proclamation and he also wanted to share the card with the Council members.

**13. Adjourn.**

There being no further business to be discussed the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

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Billy Bain  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Magalí Valls, CMC  
City Clerk

Approved as written during meeting of: 6/8/2009.

Transcribed from tape by Marilyn Newton.